

#6/Exhibit #17421
T. McBeth-Brown

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Van Ee et al.

Atty. Docket PHA23,409

Serial No. 09/217,414

Group Art Unit 2151

Filed: December 21, 1998

Examiner Ho, T.

Title: CLUSTERING OF TASK-ASSOCIATED OBJECTS FOR EFFECTING
TASKS AMONG A SYSTEM AND ITS ENVIRONMENTAL DEVICES

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)

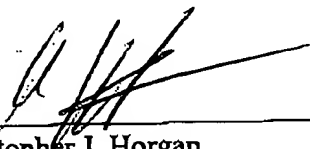
Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of ONE (1) month to respond to the Office
Action mailed on February 20, 2002.

Because of this extension the time period for response will expire on May 30, 2002. Filed
herewith is an amendment. Please charge Deposit Account No. 14-1270 in the amount of \$110.00
the fee for this extension; and charge any additional fees except for the Issue Fee, and credit any
overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

By


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